

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A damper comprising:
 - a first part having a base and a wall extending outwardly from said base and defining a space having an open end;
 - a second part rotatably secured to said first part and closing said open end, said second part including a cover and a rim at the periphery thereof;
 - one of said wall and said rim including a radially extending lip and the other of said wall and said rim defining a recess for receiving said lip and defining a continuous edge for engaging said lip; and
 - damping fluid compressed in the space between said first and second parts and contained therein by a seal formed by said edge against said lip.
2. The damper of claim 1, said cover having a gear on an outer surface thereof.
3. The damper of claim 2, said cover extending into said space defined by said wall.
4. The damper of claim 3, said lip disposed at an outer edge of said wall.
5. The damper of claim 4, said base defining a groove outwardly of said wall, and said rim extending into said groove.
6. The damper of claim 5, said base defining a protrusion into the space defined by said wall, and said cover having a dome for receiving said protrusion.

7. The damper of claim 1, said cover extending into said space defined by said wall.

8. The damper of claim 7, said lip disposed at an outer edge of said wall.

9. The damper of claim 1, said lip disposed at an outer edge of said wall.

10. The damper of claim 1, said base defining a groove outwardly of said wall and said rim extending into said groove.

11. The damper of claim 1, said base defining a protrusion into said space defined by said wall, and said cover having a dome for receiving said protrusion.

12. A damper comprising:

a fixed first part and a rotatable second part secured to said first part;

said first and second parts defining radially overlapping structures having substantially continuous circumferential engagement over a limited radial width when placed under axial force in opposite directions; and

damping fluid under compression within a substantially continuous space between said first and second parts radially confined by said substantially continuous circumferential engagement.

13. The damper of claim 12, said first part including a base and a cylindrical wall, and said second part including a cover having a rim for engaging said wall and a gear integral with said cover.

14. The damper of claim 13, said wall having a radially outwardly directed lip and said rim having a thickened end radially overlapping said lip.

15. The damper of claim 14, one of said base and said cover having a protrusion and the other of said base and said cover having a dome for receiving said protrusion.

16. The damper of claim 15, said rim disposed outwardly of said wall.

17. A gear damper comprising:

a fixed first part;

a second part rotatable relative to said first part, said second part having a cover, a gear integral with said cover and an outer rim;

said first and second parts defining a continuous sliding seal of limited radial width; and

a continuous layer of damping fluid contained between said first and second parts and radially constrained by said seal.

18. The gear damper of claim 17, said seal formed by axial separation of said first and second parts.

19. The gear damper of claim 18, said damping fluid being compressed between said first and second parts and apply force against said first and second parts for creating said seal.

20. The gear damper of claim 17, said damping fluid being compressed between said first and second parts and apply force against said first and second parts for creating said seal.